

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Replacement paragraph for the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 17 and ending at page 17, line 15:

Although the present invention has been described with reference to preferred embodiments, workers skilled in the art will recognize that changes may be made in form and detail without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. The above description illustrates the invention in one example configuration and any appropriate process control loop may be used such as 4-20 mA, 2, 3, or 4 wire loop, multi-drop loop and a loop operating in accordance with Fieldbus, Profibus, HART® or other communication protocol which transmits process-related information by controlling current flow in a process control loop. The present invention can be particularly useful in a Safety Instrumented System (SIS) configuration which provides an additional safety layer to a process control loop. The invention can provide a technique of improving the Safety Integrity Level (SIL) rating of a process device. These techniques can be used to convert an undetected failure or potentially unsafe condition into a detected failure which occurs in accordance with a safe condition. Thereby increasing the Safe Failure Fraction (SFF) for process devices used in Safety Instrumented Systems (SIS). The present invention can be used in conjunction with techniques set forth in U.S. Application No. 10/____719,163, filed November 21, 2003 and entitled PROCESS DEVICE WITH SUPERVISORY OVERLAYER.